

REMARKS

This communication is in response to the Office Action issued August 27, 2002. Claims 1-72 are pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance in view of the following is respectfully requested.

A. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103

In sections 1-33 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-72 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Linton (U.S. Pat. No. 6,282,404) in view of Hollingsworth (U.S. Pat. No. 6,157,808). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 20 and 39 each recite inter alia, (i) determining personalized professional training information to provide based on a profile associated with the login data; and (ii) providing the personalized professional training information wherein the profile defines a user's unique training requirements for the business professional role. For example, a user is assigned a logon name and password. The password is employed during a verification process to determine the user's authorization to access training information, and if so, it is determined what the user's training requirements are based on a profile. The profile defines the user's training requirements based on past training and regulations defined by a regulatory agency. Each user has a unique profile, and thus, the training information provided to the user on a display is personalized for each user. The user's training requirements are updated based on past training and thus what is provided to the user on the display is also updated. The present invention, provides a novel platform for providing professionals with training that is specifically tailored to a user and not solely a class of users.

Linton discloses a training environment where training information is provided as an interactive session to a user who may answer questions. A report of the user's performance and responses are forwarded to a second user. The user gains access to authorized programs following a login and password sequence. Once logged on, the users can choose from several titles that are within their course material. The titles are options of categories of

information. Linton does not teach or suggest providing the personalized professional training information wherein the profile defines a user's unique training requirements for the business professional role. The training information provided by Linton, as illustrated in Fig. 7, corresponds to the overall training information provided by the system. The training information options listed on the Fig. 3 title page of Linton is not specific to a user as defined by login to a class of users. More specifically, the system of Linton merely provides all of the programs available on the system to a user; prevents the user to access categories of programs listed on the title page based on login for classes of users. This is quite different than the present invention which provides the programs that are specifically accessible to the user at the outset. Accordingly, Linton fails to disclose providing personalized professional training information wherein the profile defines a user's unique training requirements for the business professional role. Linton also fails to teach or suggest determining personalized professional training information to provide based on a profile associated with the login data.

In Linton, access is granted to various information based on login. Again, the information provided is generic and not solely professional training information that is to be reviewed and interacted with by a trainee for determining the trainee's competency level. Therefore, Linton fails to disclose determining personalized professional training information to provide based on a profile associated with the login data. Accordingly, Linton fails to disclose or suggest all of the claimed elements recited in each of the claims 1, 20, and 39.

The deficiencies identified in Linton above, are not remedied by the combination of Linton and Hollingsworth. Hollingsworth merely discloses a mechanism for the identification of skills and licenses which an employee needs to become competent or certified for a given trade or job. The employee compliance with all applicable statutes and regulations related to training, development and licensing of personnel is identified and reported. There is no discussion of the mechanism determining personalized professional training information to provide based on a profile associated with the login data or providing personalized professional training information based on login. The Examiner is requested to specifically indicate where within the specification the mechanism specifies that it operates

in the aforementioned manner. Thus, Hollingsworth fails to disclose determining personalized professional training information to provide based on a profile associated with the login data or providing personalized professional training information based on login. Hollingsworth, therefore, fails to disclose all of the elements recited in each of claims 1, 20, and 39.

✓ Nor is there any motivation, or even any suggestion contained in the cited references for combining the references in the manner proposed by the Examiner. There must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the prior art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings (MPEP §706.02(j)). Neither Linton nor Hollingsworth provides any suggestion or motivation to combine the cited references in the manner proposed by the Examiner in order to yield any combination resembling Applicants' claimed invention.

✓ Assuming, arguendo, that Linton may be combined with Hollingsworth in the manner proposed by the Examiner, the combination of (i) Linton's providing of general training information where access to categories of information is based on login, and (ii) Hollingsworth's computer system that identifies and reports employee compliance with all applicable statutes and regulations merely yields at best providing general training information where access to categories of information is based on login to identify and report employees compliance with all applicable statutes and regulations. Such a combination of references is therefore deficient regarding determining personalized professional training information to provide based on a profile associated with the login data or providing personalized professional training information based on login. In the absence of any motivation or suggestion to combine the references, and in the absence of any hint or suggestion in the combined references to disclose all of the claim limitations, Linton in view of Hollingsworth fails to provide even a prima facie basis for determining obviousness of the elements and operations as now recited in each of claims 1, 20, and 39.

Dependent claims 2-19, 21-38 and 40-72 each incorporate the elements of the respective independent claims, and therefore are not shown or even suggested by Linton and Hollingsworth when considered either alone or in combination with one another.

B. Conclusion

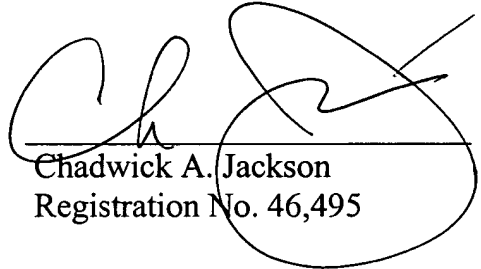
For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is requested. If the Examiner has any questions about this Amendment and to facilitate prosecution, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned attorney. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 19-5127 referencing 19046.0001.

Respectfully submitted,

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